

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2028

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 2103

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AF, US

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH PRESIDENT DAOUD

REF: STATE 77284.

1. IN THE COURSE OF A MEETING LASTING ALMOST ONE AND ONE-HALF HOURS APRIL 6 WITH PRESIDENT DOUD, HE MADE ONLY ONE DIRECT AND ONE INDIRECT REFERENCE TO OUR LIFTING OUR ARMS EMBARGO TO PAKISTAN AND INDIA. ALMOST THE ENTIRE CONVERSATION DEALT WITH THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. THE ATMOSPHERE WAS ENTIRELY CORDIAL. WAHEED ABDULLAH AND SAMAD GHASUS WERE ALSO PRESENT.

2. DURING THE OPENING PLEASANTRIES, I REFERRED TO PRESIDENT DAOUD'S RECENT TRAVELS IN THIS AREA. HE COMMENTED THAT HE HAD HAD FRIENDLY VISITS TO FRIENDLY COUNTRIES AND THAT THEY HAD DISCUSSED MATTERS OF MUTUAL CONCERN, INCLUDING, HE ADDED WITH A SMILE, THE AMERICAN ARMS POLICY.

3. AFTER OUR DISCUSSION OF THE MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTHEAST ASIA, I MENTIONED, PER PARA ONE REFTEL, THAT THE UNITED STATES HOPES THAT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN COUNTRIES OF THIS REGION CAN BE PEACEFULLY RESOLVED AND THAT WE CAN HAVE THE BEST POSSIBLE RELATIONS WITH EACH OF THE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION. I WENT ON TO EXPRESS THE SENATORS' AND MY OWN REGRETS THAT

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THE HIGH-LEVEL SENATORIAL DELEGATION WAS UNABLE TO VISIT

AFGHANISTAN LAST WEEK. I ALSO MADE SOME OPTIMISTIC NOISES ABOUT OUR AID LEVELS FOR THE NEXT YEAR IN THE LIGHT OF THE ENACTMENT OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE APPROPRIATION. IN HIS RESPONSE, DAOUD MADE A PARTICULAR POINT OF SAYING THAT HE HOPES THAT AFGHANISTAN AND THE UNITED STATES CAN HAVE THE CLOSEST POSSIBLE RELATIONSHIP AND THAT ANY MISUNDERSTANDINGS BETWEEN US CAN BE OVERCOME. I RESPONDED THAT I WAS ENCOURAGED BY THESE WORDS BECAUSE THAT WAS PRECISELY MY MISSION.

4. IN LIGHT OF THE FOREGOING, I DID NOT REPEAT NOT MAKE THE POINTS LISTED IN PARA TWO REFTEL.
ELIOT

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NNN

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